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INTERESTING DOINGS MARKED

The Bounding out of the Church's
Half Century—Two Octogenarians
Present Among the Former Pastors.
Anniversary Sermon by Rev. F. N.
Lynch—Exercises Occurred Satur-
day and Sunday—Its History.

The fiftieth anniversary of Chapline Street Methodist Episcopal church, South Side, was elaborately observed in exercises which began Saturday evening and closed last night. The event was of interest to Wheeling Methodists as well as to the congregation, and large crowds attended the exercises, which were exceedingly interesting. Several former pastors attended and were warmly greeted by their old congregation.

The pastor of the church at present is Rev. W. J. Harkness, A. M. Ph. D., who labored hard for the success of the anniversary celebration, and he was ably aided by each one of his charge, who consider any effort for "dear old Chapline Street" a labor of love. The church was decked in gala attire for the jubilee exercises, flags, bunting and flowers being used in tasteful profusion. Arches of maple leaves surmounted the entrances and near the pulpit was a large floral cross made up of fifty bouquets. This beautiful design contained forty-nine bouquets, and at the close of Rev. F. N. Lynch's sermon yesterday morning the fiftieth bouquet, a bunch of lilies, was presented by Pastor Harkness on behalf of Mrs. C. D. Hubbard, the surviving member of the church's founders, she being unable to leave her home to attend the exercises.

The anniversary programme opened Saturday evening, and it contained music and appropriate addresses. Prayer was offered by Rev. J. L. Clark, D. D., of Tarentum, Pa. Dr. Clark and Rev. A. Dillon, D. D., of Coraopolis, Pa., are former pastors, both octogenarians and superannuated, and each retains a rare amount of vitality and virility. Dr. Dillon responded to the addresses of welcome. For the Wheeling Methodist Episcopal district Rev. Dr. A. Moore, presiding elder, spoke, and Rev. J. L. Sooy, D. D., spoke for the Wheeling churches. Rev. Dr. Harkness spoke in behalf of Chapline Street church. Musical numbers were contributed by Harry Sweeney and Miss Lydia McNash.

The exercises on Sunday continued throughout the day. At 9:30 a. m. the Sunday school was held and it was an interesting session, 225 of the 225 scholars enrolled attending, and were treated to an excellent address by Drs. Clark and Dillon. Superintendent Elmer E. Grimes has reasons to be proud of his school. Class No. 5 purchased a piano, which was contributed yesterday to the school.

A feature of the church services, at 10:20 o'clock, was the anniversary sermon delivered by Rev. F. N. Lynch, of Grafton, and one of Chapline Street's most efficient pastors. In the afternoon beginning at 2:30 o'clock a love feast was held, presided over by Rev. Dr. Clark, and it was the occasion for many experiences by members and visiting Methodists, all speaking of the helpfulness of God's grace.

The Epworth league held a brief service at 7 p. m. Addresses were made by prominent temperance speakers. A song and praise service followed. Miss Nettie Stevens, the church's organist, rendered the organ voluntary. Harry B. Sweeney gave a basso solo, Harry Bell a tenor solo and Miss Flannigan a contralto solo. The programme consisted of several short addresses by Rev. Messrs. Clark, Moore, Lynch and Harkness. The latter spoke in the place of Rev. D. A. Denton, of Parkersburg, editor of the Methodist Episcopal Times, also a pastor of the church, who was unavoidably prevented from attending.

The sermon of the day was that delivered by Rev. Mr. Lynch. It was a splendid discourse and highly complimented. His text was taken from I Kings, 18th chapter, 17-18. Rev. Mr. Lynch argued for an aggressive Christianity, and his illustrations were replete with historical references.

A historical sketch of Chapline Street church is linked with Wheeling Methodism. Extracts from that prepared by Rev. W. J. Harkness, the present pastor of the church, will be read with interest. They are as follows:

The Rev. Wilson Lee, a noted and eloquent minister of the Baltimore conference, preached the first Methodist sermon in the little hamlet of Wheeling. The first convert was Colonel Ebenezer Zane and his wife, Elizabeth. They organized the first class, which became a part of the Redstone circuit of the Baltimore conference. Although but a small beginning, it has grown to be one of the strongest churches in the West Virginia conference. Instead of the rustic hut we see the beautiful edifice now situated on Chapline street, known as the Fourth Street Methodist Episcopal church.

This little vine of Methodism has grown into a large and thrifty plant; branches, each bearing much fruit to the glory of God, until to-day Methodism is the largest Protestant denomination in the city, numbering in all ten congregations within the city limits, and a large number in the immediate vicinity.

Chapline Street church is the oldest daughter of the venerated mother of Wheeling Methodism, among the English churches, for in 1839 the German portion of the membership separated and built a church on Chapline street, south of the creek, which had the distinction of being the first German M. E. church in the world.

The history of the organization of the church is as follows:
"At a quarterly conference of the Fourth Street church, held March 11, 1848, an estimating committee, previously appointed, reported a plan, specifications and estimates of a house, 42x63 feet, supposed cost \$2,515. They also reported a subscription of \$1,829.50. On the basis of this report the trustees proceeded at once to the erection of the church. Following are the names of the trustees: Elijah Day, John Fisher, Daniel Zane, William J. Bates and Robert Hamilton. At the ensuing quarterly conference, July 26, 1848, the trustees reported that Thomas Hornbrook and Henry Echols had made the church the

generous offer of a lot 60x120 feet on condition that a house of worship should be built thereon to be ready for occupancy by next Christmas, and to cost not less than \$2,000. They further reported that they had contracted with William Exley for the erection of a house to cost not less than \$3,000.

At the quarterly conference held December 30, 1848, the preacher in charge was requested to appoint a separate board of trustees for the Chapline Street church. At the quarterly conference held June 9, 1849, the old board of trustees was released from all responsibilities and liabilities by the new board assuming the same. This new board consisted of Thomas H. List, Henry Echols, Joseph Pedley, S. C. Stevens, Z. Garrold, A. A. Adams and C. D. Hubbard.

The first quarterly conference of the South Wheeling church—this was the name first given to the charge—was held July 7, 1849. The Rev. C. D. Battelle was the presiding elder and Rev. Israel Dallas preacher in charge. C. D. Hubbard was recording steward; John Goudy, Peter Ripley, Arthur Little and G. A. Wakeman were leaders; Thos. H. List was president, C. D. Hubbard secretary and Thomas C. Stevens treasurer of the board of trustees.

For fifty years the church has struggled on for the upbuilding of Christ's cause; although she has passed through many a dark cloud, yet she has always shown a spirit of aggressiveness and spirituality. Through the untiring efforts of her earnest pastors, twenty-six in all, hundreds of sinners have been led to Christ; and by their influence have either connected themselves with some branch of the church or have gone into the mission fields or into the ministry. Her future is bright and encouraging.

Many of the old landmarks are passing away. Of the original members but one remains—the wife of C. D. Hubbard, a child of God, whose heart and prayers are still with the people. The reaper, Death, with sharp sickle, has gathered many golden sheaves from among us. C. D. Hubbard, Thos. J. List, Henry Echols, Peter Ripley, N. G. Marsh, James Daggs and others equally revered, have joined the church triumphant.

There are some still remaining in our midst who helped to carry its burdens when it was struggling for existence. James Reed, "the father of the church," is still directing the board by his wise and judicious counsel. For over forty-three years he has been the recording steward, and although the hand of age has touched his body, yet his soul has still the fire of youth. Regardless of weather, he is always to be found at his post, and when the message comes he will die in the harness, to go and meet the sainted wife who left us at the opening of the year. By his watchful care we have the entire church records, the quarterly conference reports of almost every conference since the foundation of the church.

James Barton and A. J. McNash are still guiding the ship by their counsel. Brother McNash has left the city to try and regain his health, and the earnest prayers of the church are that he may soon return benefited by his trip. Aunt Eleanor Wauchope is still able to be with us, although well up in years. For fifty years she has been in the Lord's service. Although Matthew Reed is not able to worship with us on account of old age, yet he still remembers the members in his prayers. His grand work in the past will never be forgotten. James Wilson, although not a member, never forgets his old home when he is in town. Chapline Street will always remember the labors of this devoted child of God. Sister Emma Hubbard has been a faithful worker in the Master's vineyard. Great will be her reward in the future.

The congregation still worships in the first building which they erected fifty years ago. It is consequently time-worn and innocent of any pretensions to architectural beauty. A new building is sorely needed and the full measure of usefulness possible to this people cannot be had without it. It is impossible to accommodate the congregation on Sunday evening without the use of chairs. The Sabbath school, under the guidance of Brother Elmer Grimes, has increased to over 225, and the room is too small for its accommodation. This is the largest record the school has ever had.

We feel greatly encouraged with the outlook for a new church, the members are taking hold of the enterprise with a desire to see it accomplished. Already several thousand dollars have been promised.

The members who have ministered to the spiritual wants of Chapline Street's congregation from its foundation to the present are as follows:

Israel Dallas, June, 1849-51, dead; Wesley Kenney, June, 1851-52, died at Smyrna, Del. June 24, 1855; E. G. Nicholson, June, 1852-53, dead; Jacob B. Patterson, June, 1853-55, dead; Samuel R. Dawson, June, 1855-57, died at Ellensburg, W. Va.; Thomas H. Moore, June, 1857-59, dead; Thomas L. Clark, April, 1859, March, 1861, superannuated, Pennsylvania; Gideon Martin, March, 1861-63, superannuated, Fairmont; James R. Blakeney, March, 1863-65, dead; Samuel Steele, March, 1865-68, died at Buchanan; A. J. Lynch, March, 1868-71, superannuated; Edward W. Ryan, March, 1871-73, Ypsilanti, Mich.; John R. T. Thompson, March, 1873-76, 455 Washington avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Winfield C. Snodgrass, March, 1876, October, 1878, Plainfield, N. J.; W. R. White, October, 1878-79, died at Fairmont; Thomas B. Hughes, October, 1879-81, Bloomfield, Iowa; George E. Hite, October, 1881-84, Albany, N. Y.; H. C. Sanford, October, 1884-85, Ellensburg, W. Va.; J. C. Hull, October, 1885, March, 1887, expelled; J. Dillon, March, 1887, October, 1887; W. G. Ribbaldaffer, October, 1887-89, Winter-set, Iowa; F. N. Lynch, October, 1889-93, Grafton, W. Va.; L. H. Jordan, October, 1893-95, presiding elder New River district; D. A. Denton, October, 1895-96, M. E. church, Parkersburg; Wm. Anderson, October, 1896-98, Clarkburg; Wm. J. Harkness, October, 1898.

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Cures dandruff and prevents any return of it; stops that annoying itching of the scalp and makes the hair strong, soft and lustrous. It is especially helpful to persons whose hair is thin, dry and liable to fall out. The tonic cures the skin about the roots of the hair; will soon cover bald spots with a handsome growth. Price, \$1 a bottle.

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Neither does it change the color of the hair all at once. Only dyes do that, and they wash off. But Capilla-Renova will not wash off. Price, \$1.50 per bottle.

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